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NEWS RELEASE

Oct. 21, 2008

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AUTHOR TO DISCUSS RISKS OF USING COAL TO SOLVE ENERGY CRUNCH

MISSOULA -

An author who argues that coal is not a clean or cheap solution to the world's growing energy demands will speak Thursday, Oct. 30, at The University of Montana.

Richard Heinberg is a senior fellow at the Post Carbon Institute, headquartered in Sebastopol, Calif. He will present "Blackout: Coal, Climate and the Last Energy Crisis" at 8 p.m. in Social Science Building Room 352. The event is free and open to the public.

Heinberg is the author of eight books, including "The Party's Over: Oil, War and the Fate of Industrial Societies," "Powerdown: Options and Actions for a Post-Carbon World" and "The Oil Depletion Protocol: A Plan to Avert Oil Wars, Terrorism and Economic Collapse."

He contends that coal is the dirtiest of the conventional fossil fuels and that the world's ability to deal with the historic challenge of climate change hinges on whether we burn more or less coal in future years.

Sponsors of Heinberg's lecture are the Alternative Energy Resources Organization, the UM Environmental Studies Program, Climate Solutions, GlobalWarmingSolutions.org, Montana Audubon, the National Center for Appropriate Technology, the Pew Environment

Group, the S.A.V.E. Foundation and Sustainable Obtainable Solutions.

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